

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4324

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL SURABAY

AMCONSUL MEDAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT ID

SUBJECT: HARIMAN SIREGAR TRIAL - 18TH 21ST SESSIONS

REF: JAKARTA 10961

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SUMMARY: TESTIMONY BY ADDITIONAL WITNESSES FROM ANTI-SIREGAR FACTION UI STUDENT COUNCIL SEPT 4 AND 5 LARGELY INCONCLUSIVE, PROVIDING ONLY FURTHER EVIDENCE OF DEPTHS OF RIFT BETWEEN UI STUDENT GROUPS AND FURTHER DENIALS BY SIREGAR AND ASSOCIATES PLUS ADDITIONAL CLAIMS OF CONNECTION BETWEEN ANTI-SIREGAR FACTION AND STATE INTELLIGENCE BOARD BAKIN (I.E., ALI MURTOPO). DURING SESSIONS OF SEPT 6 AND 7 FIRST OF NON-UI PARTICIPANTS IN JANUARY AFFAIR, JAKARTA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LEADER YUSUF A.R. TESTIFIED ON ROLE OF NON-UI ELEMENTS, BUT TESTIMONY BROKE OFF SEPT 7 WHEN YUSUF REFUSED TO TESTIFY FURTHER UNTIL HIS FAMILY PERMITTED TO VISIT HIM. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT TRIAL SHARPLY DIMINISHED; PREVIOUS UNEVEN PRESS COVERAGE CONTINUING. END SUMMARY.

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1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF TESTIMONY IN SEPT 4-7
TRIAL SESSIONS, BASED ON JAKARTA PRESS REPORTS.

2. AT SEPT. 4 SESSION ANTI-SIREGAR FACTION MEMBER SARWOKO
IN CONTINUED TESTIMONY QUOTED SIREGAR AS TELLING JAKARTA
MAYOR ALI SADIKAN THAT STUDENTS PLANNED MASSIVE ACTION AND
ASKING SADIKAN'S REACTION IF THE STUDENTS WERE TO SUPPORT
HIM FOR PRESIDENT. SIREGAR DENIED MAKING STATEMENT.
SESSION ALSO HEARD WITNESS TISNAYA KARTUKUSUMAH, FIFTH
MEMBER OF ANTI-SIREGAR FACTION TO TESTIFY. TISNAYA QUOTED
SIREGAR AS TELLING HIM THERE WOULD BE A REVOLUTION IN
INDONESIA LARGER THAN THOSE IN THAILAND AND GREECE, TO BE
BROUGHT ABOUT BY PITTING PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORS (MURTOPO)
AGAINST KOPKAMTIB COMMANDER (SUMITRO). SIREGAR DENIED HE
EVER DISCUSSED REVOLUTION WITH TISNAYA. TISNAYA ALSO
STATED THAT CONSOLIDATION OF STUDENT MOVEMENT WAS ATTEMPTED
BY SIREGAR THROUGH PRESENCE AT UI DISCUSSIONS OF "OUTSIDERS"
REPRESENTING VARIOUS AD HOC PROTEST GROUPS; SIREGAR SAID
INDIVIDUALS IN QUESTION WERE ALL MEMBERS OF STUDENT COUNCIL
OR SENATE.

3. SIXTH RIVAL FACTION MEMBER ARIFIN SIMANJUNTAK TESTI-
FIED AT SEPT 5 SESSION, STATING SIREGAR HAD PROPOSED
CHANGE IN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP, HAD SUGGESTED THAT ALI
SADIKAN OR GENERAL SUMITRO MIGHT REPLACE SUHARTO, AND HAD
CALLED SUHARTO A FOOL AND SUGGESTED STUDENTS KILL HIM, ALL
OF WHICH DENIED BY SIREGAR AND PRO-SIREGAR WITNESSES
SAMBUAGA, TOMASOA AND KARTASASMITA. DEFENSE COUNSEL ELICITED
STATEMENT FROM ARIFIN THAT HE HAD ASSISTED IN DRAFTING
STUDENT PETITION OF OCTOBER 24 AND SUPPORTED ITS CONTENTS,
AND SIREGAR STATED THAT ARIFIN HAD BEEN FIRED FROM STUDENT
COUNCIL FOR EXTORTING FUNDS FOR STUDENT TRAVEL UNDER THREAT
OF ARSON FROM P.T. ASTRA (TOYOTA DEALER). SIREGAR ALSO
ASSERTED THAT TEN FIRED COUNCIL MEMBERS HAD ACTED AS INTEL-
LIGENCE AGENTS FOR BAKIN (STATE INTELLIGENCE COORDINATING
AGENCY ONE SECTION OF WHICH HEADED BY ALI MURTOPO) AND
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DEMANDED THAT COPIES OF THEIR REPORTS BE SUBMITTED TO
COURT.

4. WITNESS AT SEPT 6 AND 7 SESSIONS WAS YUSUF A.R.
(AHYA RAWISA), 24 YEAR OLD HEAD OF JAKARTA HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS ACTION FRONT KAPI (KESATUAN AKSI PELAJAR
INDONESIA) AND VETERAN OF 1966 STUDENT MOVEMENTS. YUSUF
STATED HE WAS FULLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ROLE OF HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENTS IN JANUARY 15 EVENTS. YUSUF STATED HE PARTICIPATED -- AT HIS INITIATIVE-- IN PLANNING STUDENT MARCH AND "ROLL-CALL" RALLY ON JANUARY 15, THAT HE HAD PROPOSED NATIONAL MONUMENT AS SITE RATHER THAN TRISAKTI (CATHOLIC) UNIVERSITY CAMPUS AS SUGGESTED BY SIREGAR, AND THAT EVENTUAL COMPROMISE OFFERED BY ANOTHER STUDENT RESULTED IN AGREEMENT ON MARCH FROM MONUMENT TO CAMPUS FOR RALLY. YUSUF STATED HE HAD INSISTED THAT STUDENTS MUST DISPROVE THROUGH ACTIONS MINDEF PANGGABEAN STATEMENT THAT STUDENTS PLANNING AN ATTEMPT TO SEIZE POWER. YUSUF SAID HE PROPOSED COORDINATED ACTION BECAUSE HE DID NOT WANT YOUTH MOVEMENT SPLIT BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND NON-UNIVERSITY GROUPS, AND WANTED TO ASSIST GOVERNMENT AT TIME OF TANAKA VISIT IN MAKING JAPAN REVIEW ITS INVESTMENT POLICY WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS AIMED ONLY AT MAXIMIZING SHORT-TERM PROFITS. YUSUF DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS THE MOST "STUBBORN" AND "FED UP" OF THE STUDENT LEADERS, AND STATED HIS OPPOSITION TO GOLKAR (GOVERNMENT POLITICAL GROUPING) AND ALI MURTOPO'S "BULLDOZER" TACTICS. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN FORCED BY THESE TACTICS TO BE SPECTATOR ONLY IN 1971 ELECTION, AND RATHER THAN JOIN GOLKAR WOULD CHOOSE "GOLPUT" (PROBABLY MEANING "GOLONGAN PUTUS ASA" -- GROUP WITHOUT HOPE -- OR OTHER SATIRICAL PLAY ON GOLKAR ACRONYM). YUSUF HOWEVER DENIED THAT HE HAD ENCOURAGED MASS ACTION OR THAT EITHER HIS GROUP OR THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ARSON WHICH FOLLOWED JANUARY 15 MARCH.

5. AT START OF SEPT 7 SESSION YUSUF REFUSED TO TESTIFY FURTHER UNLESS COURT GRANTED HIM RIGHT TO VISITS FROM HIS FAMILY. REMINDED BY JUDGE OF FIVE-YEAR, RP. 500,000 FINE FOR REFUSING TO TESTIFY, YUSUF MAINTAINED HIS POSITION, STATING HE WAS "PSYCHOLOGICALLY SICKENED" AND THAT IT WAS DUTY OF COURT TO UPHOLD JUSTICE. FOLLOWING WITNESS, YUSUF ASSOCIATE YESSY MONIMCA, ALSO DECLINED TO TESTIFY ON GROUNDS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF A TOOTHACHE FOR WHICH HE SAID HE HAD BEEN GIVEN ONLY VITAMIN PILLS AT MILITARY DETENTION CENTER. SESSION ADJOURNED UNTIL SEPT 9. END UNCLASSIFIED

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6. COMMENT: YUSUF IS MOST OUTSPOKEN AND COLORFUL WITNESS TO APPEAR SO FAR. HIS TESTIMONY, COMING DIRECTLY AFTER SUCCESSION OF PRO-PROSECUTION STUDENT WITNESSES, PROBABLY MARGINALLY STRENGTHENED SIREGAR'S CASE IF ONLY BY ACCEPTANCE OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOME JANUARY 15 ACTIONS AND BY POINTING UP RELATIVE COOPERATIVENESS OF SIREGAR IN TRIAL TO DATE.

7. ATTENDANCE AT COURT NOW REPORTEDLY DOWN FROM

PREVIOUS LARGE TOTALS TO APPROXIMATELY 25 "REGULARS," MOST OF WHOM ARE APPARENTLY OBSERVERS ASSIGNED BY VARIOUS GROUPS INCLUDING STUDENTS. PRESS PLAY CONTINUES UNEVEN PATTERN ESTABLISHED AT START OF TRIAL, WITH SOME PAPERS CONTINUING TO CARRY TRANSCRIPT - TYPE COVERAGE ON PAGE ONE AND OTHERS (INCLUDING ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PAPERS) CARRYING ONLY ABBREVIATED SUMMARIES OFTEN ON INSIDE PAGES. INTERESTING PRESS SIDELIGHT IS THAT NATIONALIST DAILY MERDEKA IS AMONG THE FEW PAPERS CARRYING EXTENDED COVERAGE, AND HAS REPORTED STATEMENTS ABOUT MURTOPO GROUP NOT CARRIED IN ANY OTHER PAPERS. MERDEKA MAY FEEL MORE FREE IN THIS REGARD THAN OTHER PAPERS SUCH AS INDEPENDENT SINAR HARAPAN, WHICH ACCORDING TO ONE STAFF MEMBER HAS ALREADY RECEIVED TWO OFFICIAL WARNINGS CONCERNING TONE OF ITS COVERAGE OF TRIAL (ONE FOR A PHOTO WHICH SHOWED SIREGAR FLASHING "V" FOR VICTORY SIGN OUTSIDE COURTROOM).

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